

The Snyder Signal

TWENTY-EIGHTH YEAR

SNYDER, SUTTER COUNTY, TEXAS, FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 1914.

NUMBER EIGHT

ALL EUROPE PLUNGED IN WAR

LEADING NATIONS OF EUROPE ARE ENGAGED IN ACTUAL WARFARE—STRUGGLE WILL BE TERRIFIC AND POSSIBILITIES MORE THAN APPALLING.

PRESIDENT WILSON OFFERS MEDIATION

The Hope that the President's Offer of Mediation is Based On the Fact That Under The Hague Agreement They Can Accept Without Changing Military Status.—Bryan Calls Meeting.

Austria and Serbia have been at war only a few days and the war which started between these two governments has involved Russia, Germany, England, France and Belgium in actual warfare with the possibility of other European nations being involved. Russia and Germany are at war and several minor battles are being fought on the Russian-German frontier. The Germans are attacking the French on the Franco-German frontier, but the most desperate land fighting so far, it seems, is along the Belgian frontier and dispatches say that the Belgians have repulsed the Germans at several points along the border.

England declared war on Germany, Tuesday at 7 p. m. when the German government refused to recognize Belgian neutrality.

Engagements of considerable importance have been reported, between British and German warships in the North Sea. The French destroyed two German warships in the Mediterranean sea Wednesday and captured another. The German fleet repulsed a Russian fleet in the Baltic sea early in the week.

At present, Great Britain, France, Belgium and Russia are allied against Germany. Germany has called upon Italy to live up to her treaty obligations, which means that Germany expects Italy to become her ally, together with Austria-Hungary. So far Italy has been neutral and has signified her intention of remaining so. It is reported that Spain will remain neutral and Turkey has so stated, but her troops are being mobilized.

It appears that Japan is coming to the aid of Great Britain in the event that England needs her assistance, complying with the terms of a former treaty.

All of Europe has become the scene of the most animated and active war operations within a week and the possibilities of one of the greatest wars in the history of the world are right now upon us.

President Wilson, Wednesday sent the rulers of the leading nations involved, a tender of his good offices to mediate. His message follows:

"As official head of one of the powers signatory to The Hague Convention, I feel it to be my privilege and my duty, under Article 2 of that Convention, to say to you in a spirit of earnest friendship that I should welcome an opportunity to act in the interest of European peace, either now, or at any other time that might be thought more suitable, as an occasion to serve you and all concerned in a way that would afford me lasting cause for gratitude and happiness."

—WOODROW WILSON.

MILITARY STRENGTH OF AUSTRIA, SERBIA AND THEIR POSSIBLE ALLIES

	Peace Strength	Reserves	War Strength	Available for duty
Austria	350,000	1,610,000	2,060,000	3,000,000
Serbia	32,000	208,000	240,000	60,000
Triple Alliance				
Austria	350,000	1,610,000	2,060,000	3,000,000
Germany	870,000	4,430,000	5,300,000	1,000,000
Italy	250,000	550,000	1,200,000	1,200,000
Totals	1,510,000	6,990,000	8,460,000	5,260,000
Triple Entente				
Russia	1,250,000	3,300,000	5,500,000	5,200,000
England	254,000	476,500	730,000	2,000,000
France	720,000	2,280,000	4,000,000	1,800,000
Totals	2,264,000	7,056,500	10,230,000	8,200,000

NAVAL STRENGTH OF THE NATIONS.

Austria		Russia		Germany		France		Italy		Great Britain	
Superdreadnaughts	—	Superdreadnaughts	—	Superdreadnaughts	—	Superdreadnaughts	—	Superdreadnaughts	—	Superdreadnaughts	—
Dreadnaughts	—	Dreadnaughts	—	Dreadnaughts	—	Dreadnaughts	—	Dreadnaughts	—	Dreadnaughts	—
Other battleships	14	Other battleships	12	Other battleships	30	Other battleships	27	Other battleships	11	Other battleships	48
Armored Cruisers	3	Armored Cruisers	6	Armored Cruisers	3	Armored Cruisers	22	Armored Cruisers	16	Armored Cruisers	24
Cruisers	5	Cruisers	8	Cruisers	37	Cruisers	15	Cruisers	19	Cruisers	72
Destroyers	18	Destroyers	95	Destroyers	141	Destroyers	84	Destroyers	32	Destroyers	215
Torpedo Boats	63	Torpedo Boats	42	Torpedo Boats	47	Torpedo Boats	224	Torpedo Boats	87	Torpedo Boats	119
Submarines	8	Submarines	31	Submarines	27	Submarines	78	Submarines	18	Submarines	77
Totals	119	Totals	195	Totals	304	Totals	562	Totals	204	Totals	392
Grand Totals											
Austria		Russia		Germany		France		Italy		Great Britain	
Superdreadnaughts	—	Superdreadnaughts	—	Superdreadnaughts	—	Superdreadnaughts	—	Superdreadnaughts	—	Superdreadnaughts	—
Dreadnaughts	—	Dreadnaughts	—	Dreadnaughts	—	Dreadnaughts	—	Dreadnaughts	—	Dreadnaughts	—
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Grand Totals											

TRADES DAY EVENT PROVES SUCCESS

AGRICULTURAL DISPLAY BY THE FARMERS OF SUTTER COUNTY WAS EXCELLENT.

Last Monday was the biggest First Monday, Snyder has had this year. There were many people in town. It was the occasion of the big show, Trades Day and the collection and exhibition of agricultural products.

The big show was a great success and deserves to be written up and described in another article. The farm and garden display was good. It was gratifying to note the interest taken by our people in this interesting line. The ready responses to the call for samples of crops, proves that a two days county fair would bring a great store of products that would bring joy to the Sutter county people and attract the admiration of visitors and home seekers. These things are proof that Sutter county can and does produce the stuff.

Broxson & Mitchell had their real estate office open for the exhibit and it was crowded all day.

J. B. Kerr contributed a lot of Jerusalem wheat and Sudan grass.

Johnnie Wilson brought in onions and feterita.

Ira Sturdivant exhibited a big squash and a lot of feterita.

E. O. Smith showed samples of Sudan.

Rev. J. E. Stephens came in with a big muskmelon grown by W. B. Lesons.

Pete Bridgman showed a cabbage head that weighed 12 1/4 lbs. Tom Broxson brought it to send to his daughter in Johnson county.

J. L. Aligh had some fine samples of corn, kafir, a pumpkin and a kershaw.

Don Robinson's corn and maize showed up well.

O. L. Morrow contributed some fine corn. A 32-pound melon and a stalk of cotton that promises a bale to the acre.

W. P. Dalley showed some fine home grown corn and feterita.

J. L. Sheppard was here with dwarf kafir, red and white maize.

Jim Pagan and Clayton Tesoro didn't bring in any samples, but said they had the stuff at home.

W. H. Crowder displayed the cotton, feterita and maize.

D. J. Rhoades showed samples of white corn which will yield 25 or 40 bushels to the acre. He has six acres of it, all good alike.

Jim Lockhart came in with some fine tomatoes.

A. Jackson tempted the judges with a 16 pound water melon.

T. F. Oliver showed some fine onions grown from the seed.

W. H. Wilson, maize, kafir and pop corn.

J. W. Mauldin, maize and feterita.

D. O. Parley, feterita and corn that would cause an Illinois farmer to admit there are others.

Emmet Banks, corn, pop corn, feterita and maize.

Cornelius Davis said he could have brought in a lot of carmel weeds to prove the fertility of the land.

This display was a spontaneous affair without preparation and with a systematic arrangement and a general advertising campaign, an exhibit can be made that will prove to home seekers that West Texas is not indulging in a windy about her advantages as an agricultural country.

HOG WHEAT CROP

Sutter County Farmer Has Made a Record for Wheat Growing This Year.

R. L. McMullan, who farm is ten or eleven miles northwest of Snyder was here Friday to advertise for help to haul his wheat to market.

Mr. McMullan had eight hundred acres of wheat this year and he is now threshing it. He tells us that he will make an average of seven hundred bushels to the acre on the state crop, or a little better than 15,000 bushels.

Mr. McMullan says he never before saw such a lot of wheat in one place as he has at home.

FIRST ANNUAL HOG SHOW HELD HERE

FINE ANIMALS SHOWN TO INTERESTED CROWDS—PRIZES WERE AWARDED

No single event in its class has ever attracted the attention that the hog show did Monday. All day long the pavilion was filled with interested spectators looking over the exhibits. The entries came from all over the county and some of our neighboring counties also and considering the short period of time in which preparations were made this exhibit must be considered a pronounced success.

The entries were as follows:

Jim Weathers, Duroc boar, farrowed, March 14, 1914;

H. P. Wellborn, Duroc gilt, farrowed, March 15, 1914;

H. P. Wellborn, Duroc boar, farrowed, March 15, 1914;

H. M. Blackard, Duroc pigs, farrowed, June 14, 1914;

W. J. Turner, Duroc pigs, farrowed, June 22, 1914;

Allen Howell, Duroc gilt, farrowed, March 5, 1914;

J. W. Ketter, Poland China pigs, farrowed, July 3, 1914;

J. W. Ketter, Duroc pigs, farrowed, June 15, 1914;

W. T. Sturdivant, Duroc boar, farrowed, April 4, 1914;

Earl Nation, Poland China pigs, date farrowed not given;

Allen Warren, Duroc pigs, farrowed, July 14, 1914;

J. T. Wright, Duroc gilt, farrowed, April 4, 1914;

Pat Brown, Poland China gilt, date farrowed, not given;

Alexander & Sons, Poland China boar, farrowed, October 1913;

Alexander & Sons, Poland China pigs, farrowed, June 20, 1914;

Alexander & Sons, Poland China gilt, Feb. 1913;

The judges, W. R. Wren, Wiley Crowder and W. T. Coleman awarded the prizes given by the Sutter County Hog Growers Association, as follows:

For animals under six months of age:

First premium: \$3.00 and ribbon to H. P. Wellborn on Duroc Boar.

Second premium: \$2.00 and ribbon to Jim Weathers on Duroc boar.

Third premium: to Allen Howell on Duroc gilt.

Fourth premium to Alexander & Sons on Poland China pig.

For animals over 6 months of age:

First premium to Alexander & Sons on Poland China boar, Biting Star No. 1010, bred by Long Kings Equal team, Long Lady Third.

Following the award of prizes the regular announced program of the afternoon took place in the Court House where permanent organization of the Association took place, electing Dr. H. L. Howell as president and E. J. Anderson, secretary-treasurer. Forty-two members were present.

Resolution for a committee of three to draft by-law was passed. At this time it was also decided that the organization should invite the breeders of all classes of live stock, including horses, mules, cattle, poultry, etc. to prepare for an annual exhibition to be held at Snyder some time in October or November, permanent date to be set on the first Monday in September. At the next meeting the following program of interest has been announced and all those interested in hog culture are especially urged to attend.

"Selection of Breeding Stock"—W. R. Wren.

"General Care of Breeding Sow from Breeding to Weaning Time"—J. L. Weathers.

"Feeding from Weaning Time"—H. P. Wellborn.

Followed by a general discussion. There will be an exhibit on First Monday in September, although the hog raisers are urged to bring their stock to the market for disposal as several good sales were made this Monday.

Jack Elkins and family of Polaris came in Tuesday from a several week's visit in Mineral Wells.

THE LATHAM TRIAL AT ANSON

JURY QUICKLY SECURED—MANY WITNESSES TESTIFY.—PROSECUTION RESTS WEDNESDAY—DEFENSE INTRODUCED TESTIMONY AND RESTED THURSDAY AFTERNOON

EIGHT HOURS ARGUMENT TO THE SIDE

Evidence Was All In by 2:30 O'clock Thursday Afternoon.—May Probably be Late Today Before Case Gets to the Jury.—Plan of Self Defense Will be Entered.—Trial Consumes Week.

Quite a number of witnesses in the case of the State vs. Mrs. Minnie Latham, charged with the murder of John T. Stewart, in Snyder, on January 26, 1914 have returned from Anson, where the woman is on trial in the District court. They report that this State rested its case Wednesday morning and the defense was introducing testimony Wednesday afternoon at Thursday. The trial is taking up all the week.

The trial jury is composed of the following named Jones County citizens: C. C. Dancy, W. J. McCalland, L. L. Busby, C. W. Bartlett, C. L. Hamilton, J. M. Pittman, W. G. Anderson, H. J. Hodges, J. H. Dixon, W. A. Huling, J. R. Caldwell and N. B. Bigham.

Both sides are represented by strong legal talent. Judge Cullen C. Higgins of Snyder is conducting the examination of witnesses on the part of the prosecution, and Judge Wright of San Angelo for the defense.

The testimony of the actual killing is practically the same as heretofore published in the Signal. How Mrs. Latham came to Snyder on the evening of January 19, in an automobile with her husband, how she went to the Maxwell hotel alone and registered as Mrs. C. C. Everts, P. Worth, of her nervous attitude about the hotel that night and the next morning, of the passing near the hotel just after noon of John Stewart from the east side to the north side of the public square, and of the shooting of John Stewart by Mrs. Latham a few minutes later in front of the First National Bank.

Witnesses have testified of the trial of seeing defendant and her husband travelling in an automobile in DeWitt county, about the day before the tragedy and they were going in the direction of Snyder.

The testimony back of the killing has, in a great measure been kept from the public, except the woman's statement that deceased had wronged her and that her husband had driven her from his home because of suspicion against her. Statements have been heretofore made of deceased going to the woman's store at Sterling City and forcing his attentions on her.

The most explicit statements with the past relations of deceased and defendant were brought out in the testimony of Roy Stewart.

Roy Stewart's Statement

In giving his testimony Monday afternoon, Roy Stewart was not called upon for statements concerning the killing directly, but dealt with alleged transgressions dating back more than a year previous to the killing. He said in substance, that his brother John Stewart, had left Sterling City and came to Snyder in April, 1913 and had not returned in Sterling for one time, going there in a civil suit case, and remained but one week. He said he saw defendant and her husband, W. W. Latham, driving around Snyder in a Ford automobile car sometime in July in the car was a gun in 1905 to be a .30-06 rifle. The car and its occupants passed the home of his mother, whom he and his deceased brother were staying three times. He also testified that the car was driven by the store of his brother-in-law on the public square once in passing the home and in passing the store, his brother was in view of the occupants of the car. He further testified that in the early part of 1913, he and his brother John were living near Sterling City. Mrs. Latham was running a tailor shop in Sterling and he testified that he frequently saw deceased at the defendant's place of business, talking to her, remaining there as much as an hour at a time.

On two occasions he said he had followed his brother, thought it was on Saturday night about nine thirty or ten o'clock with time. One time deceased passed the home of Mrs. Latham and witness said she came out and whistled and the two men and the defendant three or four times around his back and kissed him. They were together about two minutes.

On another occasion, witness said he followed his brother to the Latham home, saw him enter the gate and pass around the house out of sight. This time, he testified, deceased was gone about two hours and a half. He said that defendant frequently wrote money and letters to his brother, that he knew her handwriting, had become acquainted with it by standing by her side and seeing her charge things, make out orders and write checks.

He was questioned rather rigidly concerning his ability to identify her writing, and during this part of the testimony defendant took from her

hand a package of letters from

one of the letters Judge Wright selected as a sample and the witness stated that he thought it was Mrs. Latham's handwriting.

During the examination of the witness very few objections were interposed and as is his custom, Judge Thompson was ready with his ruling on every occasion.

When court recessed at noon on Tuesday for an hour and half twelve witnesses had been examined for the state.

Mrs. Ida Carleton Testified.

Mrs. Ida Carleton, sister of the deceased was placed on the stand at the conclusion of court at 2 o'clock Tuesday morning.

She testified that she formerly lived at Terrell, Kansas and Oklahoma. She further testified that while living at Oklahoma last year, that her sister, the defendant, came to her home she said that Mrs. Latham told her that her husband, W. W. Latham had kicked her out of her home. Later she said that Mrs. Latham had received a telegram from her husband telling her to come to join him. The witness testified further as to numerous letters that are alleged to have passed between John T. Stewart and the defendant.

W. L. Douglas on Stand

W. L. Douglas, cashier of the First State Bank of Sterling City, and his wife, Mrs. Douglas were both witnesses, and testified that the defendant's reputation for chastity and virtue was good at Sterling City.

J. V. White told of the woman coming alone into his hotel on the evening of Jan. 19 and of her actions that night and next morning.

The other witnesses placed on the stand during the afternoon session gave testimony as to seeing the defendant, her husband and son en route to Snyder in an automobile, meeting the accused on the streets on the night of the 19th and following morning, and others who saw all or part of the shooting.

Just before resting at 10:30 o'clock Wednesday morning, the prosecution introduced in evidence four letters alleged to have been written by the defendant to John Stewart. The reading of the letters caused the defendant to break down for the first time

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